REMARKS:

Applicant wishes to enter the following remarks for the Examiner's consideration. Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Claims 1-20 are allowed in the Notice of Allowability dated October 6, 2003; claim 22 has been allowed; and claim 22 stands rejected. Claims 1-22 are pending.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Taylor et al. (4,872,090). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Element four (4) of claim 21 recites, "one or more nest assemblies, coupled to the stationary base assembly, said one or more nest assemblies operable to provide support to one or more corresponding nests." The specification discusses nests throughout the specification, such as at page 5, lines 7-20, as follows (emphasis added):

Testing different RF devices can be accomplished by changing the type of *nest that is inserted within the RF enclosure.* A nest *contains RF device specific functionality.* Depending upon the test and measurement requirements, multiple nests may be present within the RF fixturing system. *A RF device is coupled to the nest within the RF enclosure.* The nest contains specific features that allow the RF device to be properly tested or evaluated.

The *nest, or "customization", is coupled to a mechanical support structure that is coupled to the RF fixture within the RF enclosure.* Replacing the nest is facilitated by the design of the mechanical support structure. The mechanical support structure is designed so that the electrical connections and required pneumatic hoses are automatically connected as the mechanical support structure is engaged. So, replacing the nest is reduced to removing the mechanical support structure with the associated nest and placing a new mechanical support structure with a new nest.

From these passages, it can be seen that the "mechanical support structure" is provided by the one or more nest assemblies that operate to couple a nest or nests to an RF test fixture within the RF enclosure.

The Examiner has argued that the one or more nest assemblies of the claim are anticipated by elements 23-27, 31, 41, 50, and 54 of Taylor et al and that the corresponding nests are anticipated by elements 31 and 32 of Taylor et al. Applicant respectfully submits that this interpretation of the Taylor et al. patent is faulty. The elements identified by the examiner facilitate a PC board plug into circuit board 20. These elements are defined as follows in the Taylor et al. reference: 23 is the metal insert; 24 the base enclosure; 25 a transverse wall; 26 a row of legs; 27 a top wall; 31 a male connector; 41 a connector element; 50 a gasket; and 54 a slit in 50. These elements cannot reasonably be construed as a mechanical support structure or nest assemblies that provide support to nest(s) that, as described above, contains RF functionality to facilitate RF testing of an RF device coupled to the nest within the RF enclosure. And, it can be seen that elements 31 and 32 (the male connector and female connector, respectively) definitely do not meet the definition of a nest described above.

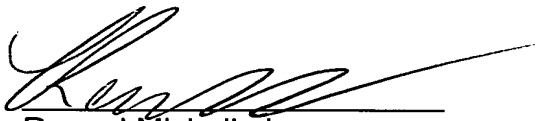
Moreover, Applicant respectfully notes that it is logically inconsistent to assert that 31 and 41 are both nest assembly elements and nests in the rejection of claim 21; these elements cannot be both.

The Examiner is respectfully directed to review the specification and the understood meaning of "nest" in the art when used in combination with an RF enclosure.

Applicant notes with appreciation that indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-20 and 22.

Please contact the undersigned if there are any questions regarding this response or application.

Respectfully submitted,



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